



ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffes
Michael O. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcom
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugaiksy
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffrey T. Helvey
Heidi L. Kraus
Crystal D. Sayles
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Molly A. McCall
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Albert J. Fasulo II*
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala

Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaston*
Kimberly N. Reddick
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Bruce E. Chalker
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhuillier
Rae Lynn Prengaman
Jane Sheshenovich*
Lawrence J. Carroll*
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Rodney G. Maze
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael A. Specht*
Andrea J. Kamage

Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Ann E. Summerfield
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longsworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Angelique G. Uy
Boris A. Matvenko
Mary B. Tung
Katrina Y. Pei
Bryan L. Sketton
Robert A. Schwartzman
John J. Figueiro
Timothy A. Doyle
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa
Jeff Lungren

Teresa Colella
Jon Wright
Victoria Rutherford
W. Brian Edge

Senior Counsel
Samuel L. Fox
Kenneth C. Bass III
Lisa A. Dunner

*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
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*Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

December 18, 2002

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 371-2550
INTERNET ADDRESS:
EKESSLER@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 2682

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/439,348; Filed: November 15, 1999
For: **Communication Methods and Apparatus**
Inventors: Febvre *et al.*
Our Ref: 1487.0160000/EJK

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DEC 19 2002
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.
Edward J. Kessler
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 25,688

EJK:gbm
Enclosures
SKGF_DC1:85327.1



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Febvre *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/439,348

Filed: November 15, 1999

For: **COMMUNICATION METHODS
AND APPARATUS**

Confirmation No.: 1544

Art Unit: 2682

Examiner: Sharma, Sujatha R.

Atty. Docket: 1487.0160000

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12/26/02

Response to Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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DEC 19 2002

Sir:

Technology Center 2600

In reply to the Office Action dated **November 19, 2002**, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1-15, 18, 26-28. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of any other claims or inventions disclosed. This election is made **without** traverse.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Edward J. Kessler
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 25,688

Date: December 18, 2002

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600